

**AMENDMENT**

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel Claim 5.

Please amend the following claim(s) as follows:

1. (Amended) A system for input of Chinese characters into a machine, comprising:

means for input of information, said means for input further comprising means for selecting information from the group consisting of a stroke, a component and a character;

means for storage of data related to the properties of individual Chinese characters, [and] data related to the properties of individual Chinese compounds and data related to the component parts of Chinese characters wherein the data related to Chinese characters includes (1) the identification and order of strokes used to write said characters, said strokes being in accordance with a selected classification scheme, (2) the frequency of occurrence of said characters as the first character of a word with respect to an operator's language, and (3) the orthographic components of said characters in writing order;

means for processing said input information into internal codes for said Chinese characters, said process means including a plurality of Chinese character encoding processes based on said stored data; and

means for display providing indication of correspondence between elements of said means for input and said display, wherein input of said information presents further character selection information in response to said input.

11. (Amended) A method for inputting Chinese characters into a machine, comprising the steps of:

[(a) inputting a selection for an initial stroke and reviewing candidates displayed in response to said initial stroke input, wherein said candidates include at least one character or at least one component;

(b) selecting a character or, if a desired character is not displayed, selecting a further stroke or a displayed component; and

(c) selecting a word associated character or a non-word associated character, such that Chinese text is constructed with said selections.]

(a) inputting a selection, said selection comprising one of a displayed component, stroke and wildcard;

(b) displaying a list of candidate characters and a list of candidate components resulting from the selection;

(c) selecting a displayed character or, if a desired character is not displayed, inputting a further selection, said further selection comprising one of a displayed component, stroke and wildcard; and

(d) selecting a word associated character or a non-word associated character, such that text comprising Chinese characters is constructed with said selections.

Please add the following claim(s):